

Colorado Maternal and Child Health Priority

Early Childhood Screening Annual Update

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Significant 2012 MCH Priority Achievements

- **Taking Initiative** - Tri-County organized representatives from all three of their communities to learn and discuss how to begin the referral roadmap process. This was an “informal” get together that they initiated. Assuring Better Child Health and Development (ABCD) provided context and facilitation around ideas for next steps. The group self identified champions for each community as well as goals for those that attended.

Denver Public Health initiated a relationship with and coordination of work with the local early childhood council and other community partners.

- **Internal Coordination** – Within local public health programs, steps are underway to self identify what screening and referral activities are happening within the public health sector. Strategies are being discussed on how to coordinate screening and referral within their own organizations. Successes, barriers, and challenges have been identified; strategies were also discussed and agreed upon among groups.
- **Model Community Guidelines**- Module One Training has been completed and technical assistance materials have been developed. A few communities have had Module One training, including Otero/Crowley, Tri County, and Jefferson.
- **State Partners and Results Based Accountability**- The Early Childhood Colorado Partnership has agreed on four Results (conditions of the well-being for children, adults, families and communities according to the Results Based Accountability Framework) to track population-based progress toward the vision that all children are valued, healthy and thriving. One of these 4 Results is: “children’s health and development are on track.” One of the six Headline Indicators identified to help quantify, at the population level, the achievement of this Result is the following: “the percentage of parents with concerns about child’s emotions, concentration, behavior or ability to get along with others” from the Child Health Survey. A data development agenda for the partnership includes identifying and/or creating a measure that reflects the percentage of children needing/not needing further development evaluation based on developmental screening results, clinical observation, or parent concern.
- **Public Health-Health Information Exchange**- The PH-HIE Steering Committee has identified a Developmental Screening Registry as 1 of 13 projects on their prioritization list.
- **Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program (MIECHV)**- Implementation of the MIECHV project in Colorado has included an infrastructure investment to establish ABCD as the state intermediary organization (state representative for the national model) to expand, support and monitor the Healthy Steps for Young Children home visiting model. Healthy Steps is an evidence-based program delivered in the context of pediatric primary care well-child visits during the first 3 years of life with a strong focus on developmental surveillance, screening and referral and on parent education and support on developmental topics. Research identifies Healthy Steps children as more likely to receive regular developmental screenings, be up to date on vaccinations by age 2, and continue to receive care at the practice through the first 2 years of

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life. The designation and support of ABCD as the intermediary organization will provide the needed foundation to expand the model in Colorado.

Implementation Challenges Encountered

- It would have been ideal if all of the local public health agencies had the Module Training or, at least, have the training scheduled for the first quarter of FY13. Due to contract delays, local public health agencies may be discouraged about the lack of ABCD training and technical assistance that they have received since October 1, 2012. Learning Circle opportunities for local public health agencies are also behind schedule.

Local Public Health Agency Implementation Support

- Development of the Roles and Responsibilities Worksheet
- Development of the Referral Roadmap Blueprint
- Development and facilitation of Learning Circles

Lessons Learned in 2012

- Local public health agencies and community partners rely on ABCD for facilitation, training, and technical assistance in order to be successful in the local action plan deliverables, specifically identifying roles and responsibilities and the referral roadmap processes.
- The steps within the Model Community Guidelines are strategic, intentional, and designed to be followed; specifically the roles and responsibilities have to be agreed upon and understood among the individuals and partners.
- Local public health agencies are working through the opportunities and challenges in defining their role within the context of population based services and ABCD.
- ABCD technical assistance will help local public health agencies develop next steps in between technical assistance visits.

Next Steps and Goals for 2013

- Technical assistance needs to address the change from program work to systems work (per lessons learned).
- Development of Module 2 training and technical assistance materials for the model community
- Development of tools to build facilitation skills among those working on fostering community partnerships and coalitions